HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE AIRPORTS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO MAKE CERTAIN CHANGES REGARDING STATE AIRPORT PROPERTIES.

WHEREAS, the Airports Division of the Department of Transportation leases unused areas of airports to local residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the local residents and businesses that lease these areas contribute to the state economy through their activities and through the payment of rent; and

WHEREAS, while reasonable rent increases with time are understandable and accepted business practices, excessive increases can chill business and force lessees to either break or not renew their leases; and

WHEREAS, some of the lessees at John Rodgers Field, also known as Kalaeloa Airport, have recently been told to expect rent increases of up to four hundred thirty-nine per cent; and

WHEREAS, the drastic increases to rent came as a surprise to many lessees at John Rodgers Field, and the lessees have not had opportunities to understand the causes of the rent increases, express concerns, or negotiate for a reasonable increase; and

WHEREAS, the Kalaeloa Airport Master Plan, published by the Department of Transportation in November 1998, recommended that the Kalaeloa Airport provide facilities to the University of Hawaii for aviation training; and

WHEREAS, although Hangar 111 and approximately two acres of paved parking at Kalaeloa Airport were transferred to the

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University of Hawaii for aviation training, the University no longer utilizes Hangar 111 for aviation training; and

WHEREAS, general aviators could utilize Hangar 111; and

WHEREAS, this session, the Department of Transportation failed to timely submit its report regarding fee and rate increases to the Legislature as required by section 261-7(e), Hawaii Revised Statutes; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Airports Division of the Department of Transportation is urged to conduct public meetings for all concerned citizens to express their concerns prior to increasing the rent on any existing lease by an amount of more than ten per cent a year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Airports Division of the Department of Transportation is urged to explore creative solutions to accommodate current lessees who are facing rent increases of more than ten per cent a year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Airports Division of the Department of Transportation is requested to offer lease terms of thirty years to promote predictability and stability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is urged to relinquish Hangar 111 so that general aviators may be able to lease it; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation, the Airports Division of the Department of Transportation, and the President and Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

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